Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Maryland
COUNTY:
Baltimore City
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	saar (Aansaariinii) € tara in no taraana a		1	ENTRY DATE							
,		s complete appl	licable sectio	ons)								
1.	NAME											
	COMMON:	1.02										
	Nine North Front St	reet										
	AND ON HISTORIC:					92						
5	LOCATION											
	STREET AND NUMBER:											
	Nine North Front St	reet '		19								
	CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSIO	NAL DISTRICT:	94						
	Baltimore	*		Third								
	STATE		CODE	COUNTY:		CODE						
_	Maryland		24	Baltimo		510						
3.	CLASSIFICATION				- 100 March 100	OF SECTION						
	CATEGORY	1	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE PUBLIC						
	(Check One)	E P. L.	211	Taraba								
	District X Building	▼ Public Private	Public Acquisit		Occupie#	Yes:						
	Site Structure	☐ Both	AN STREET, STR	Considered	■ Unoccupied □ Preservation work	XX Unrestricted						
	☐ Object	L			in progress	□ No						
		3				L						
	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	ne as Appropriate)										
	D	Service de la constante de la	D 1	ACCEPTAGE OF THE PROPERTY OF T								
						Comments						
	Commercial Ind	dustrial	Private Reside		Other (Specify)	Comments						
	Commercial Inc	dustrial [Private Reside Religious			Comments						
ET.	Commercial Ind	dustrial [Private Reside Religious Scientific		X Other (Specify) Vacant	Comments						
4.	Commercial Ind	dustrial [Private Reside Religious		Other (Specify) Vacant							
4.	Commercial Inc	dustrial ilitary useum	Private Reside Religious Scientific		X Other (Specify) Vacant							
4.	Commercial Ind	dustrial ilitary useum	Private Reside Religious Scientific		X Other (Specify) Vacant							
4.	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. Ho	dustrial ilitary useum Cil	Privote Reside Religious Scientific	ence	X Other (Specify) Vacant							
4.	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER:	dustrial ilitary useum Cil	Privote Reside Religious Scientific		X Other (Specify) Vacant	Maryland						
	Commercial Inc Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. Ho CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	dustrial dilitary duseum duscrial duscr	Privote Reside Religious Scientific	ence	Vacant	Marylan						
	Commercial Ind	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Privote Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland CODF 24						
	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. He City OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Privote Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland Cook 24						
	Commercial Ind	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Privote Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland Cook 24						
	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. Ho CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF CE Land Record Office STREET AND NUMBER:	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland Cook 24						
	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. He CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF CL	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland Cook 24						
	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. Ho CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF C Land Record Office STREET AND NUMBER: ROOM 610, Baltimore CITY OR TOWN:	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	Vacant	Maryland City						
5.	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. He CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF C Land Record Office STREET AND NUMBER: ROOM 610, Baltimore CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE:	other (Specify) Vacant and	Maryland Cook 24						
5.	Commercial Ind Educational Mi Entertainment Mu OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Mayor and City Counce STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall, 100 N. Ho CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF C Land Record Office STREET AND NUMBER: ROOM 610, Baltimore CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	dustrial ilitary useum cil olliday Stree	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE: Maryl:	other (Specify) Vacant and	Maryland City 24 Code						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl:	vacant and	Maryland City 24 Code 24						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE: Maryl: Maryl: Maryl:	and vation - Histor	Maryland City 24 Code 24 Code 24 Code Cod						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial dilitary useum cil cil cil cil cil cil cil cil cil ci	Private Reside Religious Scientific	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl:	and vation - Histor	Maryland City 24 Code 24						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific Chitectura Federal	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl: Maryl: State	and vation - Histor County	Maryland City 24 Code 24 Code 24 Code Cod						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific Chitectura Federal	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl: Maryl: State	and vation - Histor County	Maryland City 24 Code 24 Code 24 Code Cod						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific Chitectura Federal	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl: Maryl: State	and vation - Histor County	Maryland City 24 Code 24 Code 24 Code Cod						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific Chitectura Federal	STATE: Maryl: STATE Maryl: Maryl: State	and vation - Histor County	Maryland City 24 Code 24 Code 24 Code Cod						
5.	Commercial Ind	dustrial district dis	Private Reside Religious Scientific Chitectura Federal	STATE: Maryl: Maryl: Al Preserved Districts	and vation - Histor County x	Maryland 24 City code 24 code Local						

				(C	heck (One)		
	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	X	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
CONDITION		(Check Or	ie)			(Che	ck One)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Nine North Front Street is located in the oldest section of Baltimore City, just east of the Jones Falls, and is part of the proposed Historical Park which will surround the Shot Tower (National Historic Landmark). It stands within a few blocks of the Caton-Carroll Mansion and the Star Spangled Banner Flag House (National Register).

In style, this building represents the period immediately following the 'American Revolution. It is an example of the type known as "conservative Georgian" by H. Chandlee Forman. There is a gable roof with two dormers, and, on the north, one large chimney. The front facade has three double-hung windows across the second story on the first floor. There are two more windows and a doorway with marble stoop on the right which has been altered by a Victorian style cornice. A brick belt course separates the two floors. There is also a brick water course with a cellar window and an entry covered by steel plate doors.

On the north side, one can see the former roof line which has been raised to extend the third floor out over a shed and kitchen building to the rear. The original house would have had only two and a half stories and its shape was symmetrical. The south side has a porch on the third floor over the shed and three entrances into the kitchen and front rooms on the first floor. The rear contains another kitchen entrance. All fenestration on the altered portions is of the double-hung type and regularly spaced. There are signs that all the major windows had outside shutters.

The interior was originally two rooms deep with an enclosed stairway on the right, approached through a doorway in the second room. There may have been a passageway leading from the front door to the stairs, but this no longer exists. The kitchen was originally an outbuilding behind the dwelling, and its fireplace is still intact. Between the kitchen and main house, a brick and wooden shed has been constructed, attached to the earlier rear exterior wall in such a manner that the original back window and doorway still exist. This makes for a curious progression of rooms of varying sizes and shapes on all levels. Presumably the alterations were made when the house was converted to a hotel in the 1870's.

There is some original panelling and hardware remaining, especially on the upper floors and the stairway. The floors in the upper rooms all appear to be the original wide board pine. Although the original mantels have been removed, there is still a wooden one in the front bedroom on the second floor and possibly another behind some shelving in the middle room.

The Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation of Baltimore City has in its office measured drawings and a restoration feasibility study made by the late Richard C. Bernard in 1969.

¹H. Chandlee Forman, Maryland Architecture, A Short History from 1634 through the Civil War. (Cambridge, Md., 1968), p. 59.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropria	te)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	X Political	XX Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
☐ Architecture	☐ Landscape	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human- "	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Fransportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.

The house at 9 North Front Street is one of the few remaining 18th century townhouses in Baltimore. It stands in a portion of the city known as "Old Town" or, formerly, "Jones Town" which was annexed to Baltimore in 1745 and whose settlement actually predates that of Baltimore Town.

This house was built by either John Beale Bordley¹ or Charles Torrence to whom he sold the property in 1794.² Since Baltimore Street was extended through the property in 1788, it would appear logical that this structure, which is located in the center of the lot, was constructed thereafter.

In 1802 and 1804, the Baltimore City Directory listed "Thorowgood Smith, merchant" as the occupant. Smith was the second mayor of Baltimore (1804-1808). He was a successful merchant and the owner of the "Willow-brook" estate whose oval room is now in the Baltimore Museum of Art. Smith suffered financial losses and sold "Willowbrook" just prior to the period when he occupied 9 North Front Street.³

In the years following Smith's occupancy, the building was owned and occupied by the heirs of Charles Torrence. In 1875, it was sold to William Suess⁴, who turned it into a hotel and restaurant. Fragments of Suess' painted advertisement are still visible on the south wall. Samuel Nechamkin purchased the building from the Suess estate in 1940⁵ and thereafter the structure was used as an automobile parts shop.

¹John Beale Bordley, prominent member of the judiciary of Maryland, Judge of the Provincial Court (1766) and Judge of Admiralty Court (1767), purchased this property from Brian Philpot (Deed: Liber DD#2 Folio 298, (1764), Hall of Records, Annapolis).

²Deed: Liber WG#PP, Folio 138-140, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

³Although the City Directory lists Smith at 8 N. Front Street, the Baltimore City street numbering system was changed in 1887 and #8 became #9. See page 79, Polk's <u>City Directory</u> (1887).

⁴Deed: Liber GR 698 Folio 436, Baltimore City Court House

⁵Deed: Liber MLP 6058, Folio 185, Baltimore City Court House

	more Ci	ty Dir	ect	ories	1								
Balti	more Ta	x Reco	rds		100								
					s. Ba	ltimo	re	City	Court Ho	V1150	Dol+im		()
Biogr	aphical	Cyclo	ped	ia of	Repre	senta	ti.	ve Men	of Balt	imore	partilli	c c	Ma.
1	Nationa	I Blog	rap	hical	Co. (Balti	mo	re. 187	79)				
Forma	n, H. C	handle	e.	Mary	land A	rchit	ec	ture. A	Short	Histor	ry from	1674	
	through	the C	ivi	1 War	. (Can	bridg	e.	Md 1	968), p	50	y 110m	1034	
						6	٠,		, p	. 55.			
				,									
0. GEOGI	RAPHICAL	L DATA							X240.00	GP 418 T	4	xx Fara	220
1	LATITUDE						0		ATITUDE A	LENTER	POINT OF	A PHOP	77.50
CORNER	LA	TITUDE	LONGITUDE		R	R OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				DE			
	Degrees Mi		onds	-	s Minutes		1		Minutes S	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	o	•	•		•	"	1	O		•	o	,	
NE	o									1			
SE.		3. 8 ± 1.5				•	1			j	€:		
SW.	٥	•	•	١.,	· ·							0	
APPROX	IMATE ACE	REAGE OF	NON	MINATED	PROPE	RTY:	Le	ss than	one ac	re			
ILIST ALI	LSTATES	AND COU	NTIES	FOR P	ROPERTI	ES OVER	RLA	PPING ST	ATE OR CO	UNTY BO	UNDARIES		
STATE:						CODE	J.	COUNTY			••		CODE
STATE:					790	CODE	4	COUNTY:					CODE
						ļ	1						CODE
STATE:				ē,		CODE	+	COUNTY:					CODE
STATE:					2000	CODE	+	COUNTY:		The state of the s			CODE
The second second							7						
I. FORM	PREPARI	FD BY		() () () () () ()		La Company						Supple Aug	1000
	ND TITLE:						-						
Cath	oine E												
Lathar	THE L.	Black											sdh
ORGANIZ		Black									DATE		sdh
ORGANIZ			1 Tr	rust							15 (88) E	12	
Maryla	ZATION	torical	1 T1	rust							15 (88) E	2 12,	
Maryla STREET	and Hist	torica:	1 T1	rust		(e)		*c			15 (88) E	2 12,	
Maryla STREET	and Hist and NUMB Riva Roa	torica:	1 T1	rust			s	TATE			15 (88) E	2 12,	
Maryla STREET 2525 F	AND NUMB Riva Ros TOWN:	torica:	1 Tr	rust		*	s		and		15 (88) E	2 12,	1973 CODE
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo	AND NUMB Riva Ros Town:	torica ER: ad			CATION		s	Maryla	and ATIONAL	REGISTE	June		1973 CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo	AND NUMB Riva Ros TOWN:	torica ER: ad			CATION	·	S	Maryla	and ATIONAL	REGISTI	June		1973 CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Dlis	torica en: ad OFFICE	R C	ERTIFI	20. 80		S	Maryla	and ATIONAL	REGISTE	June		1973 code 24
Maryla street 2525 F city or Annapo 2. \$TATE	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Dlis E LIAISON	torica ER: ad OFFICE	R CI	ERTIFI	er for the		S	Maryla N	and ATIONAL		June	ICATIO	1973 code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I	orica. ER: ad OFFICE ed State I Preservat	R CI	ertific on Offic act of 19	er for the	ic Law	S	Mary]; N	certify that	at this pr	June	ICATIO	1973 code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE tional 89-66	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I 5), I hereb	orica. ER: ad OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat	R Cl	ertifican Office to 19	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in	ic Law	S	Mary]; N	ATIONAL	at this pr	June	ICATIO	1973 CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE tional 89-66: in the	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register	R Cl	on Office of 19	er for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has	ic Law clusion s been		Mary]; N	certify that	at this pr	June	ICATIO	1973 CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalua	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Dlis E LIAISON Historic I Historic I S), I hereb National	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to the	Liais ion A te thi and c	entification of 19 s proper certify the terial and	eer for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Mary]; N	certify that	at this pr	June	ICATIO	1973 CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-66: in the evalua forth 1	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated accor- by the Nat	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th	Liais ion A te thi and c ne c-i k Ser	on Office of 19 s proper sertify to teria an anyone.	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has d proced The recom	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa	certify that	at this pr	June	ICATIOI included	CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalue forth t level	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the National of signific	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par	R Cl Liais ion A te thi and c ne cri k Ser his n	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and the teria a	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in- hat it has ad procedu The recom- on is:	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa	certify the	at this pr	June	ICATIOI included	CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalue forth t level	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated accor- by the Nat	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par	Liais ion A te thi and c ne c-i k Ser	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and the teria a	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has d proced The recom	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa	certify the	at this pr	June	ICATIOI included	CODE 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalue forth t level	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the National of signific	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par	R Cl Liais ion A te thi and c ne cri k Ser his n	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and the teria a	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in- hat it has ad procedu The recom- on is:	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa	certify that I Register.	at this pr	June	included	code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE tional 89-669 in the evalua forth t level	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON e designate Historic I S), I hereb National ated accord by the Nat of signific lational	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par	R Cl Liais ion A te thi and c ne cri k Ser his n	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and the teria a	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in- hat it has ad procedu The recom- on is:	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa Director,	certify that I Register.	at this pr	June	included	code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalue forth t level	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON e designate Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the Nat of signific lational	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par	Liais ion A te thi and c te c-i k Ser	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and vice.	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in- hat it has ad procedu The recom- on is:	ic Law clusion s been ures set		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa	certify that I Register.	at this pr	June	included	code 24
As the tional 89-66 in the evaluation Name	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the National of significational Orland	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par ance of t	Liais	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and vice. The communication	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has d proced The recom on is: Local	ic Law clusion s been ures set nmended		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa Director,	certify that I Register.	at this pr	June	included	code 24
As the tional 89-66 in the evaluation Name	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON e designate Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the Nat of signific lational	OFFICE ed State I Preservat y nominat Register ding to th ional Par ance of t	Liais	on Office of 19 s proper certify the teria and vice. The communication	cer for the 966 (Publ rty for in hat it has d proced The recom on is: Local	ic Law clusion s been ures set nmended		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa Director,	certify that I Register.	at this pr	June	included	code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-669 in the evaluation of the level N Name	AND NUMBRIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the National of significational Orland	OFFICE ed State In Preservat y nominat Register ding to the ional Par ance of t	Liais ion A te thi and c te critical te critical te critical	on Office of 19 s proper certify to teria an evice. To commati	cer for the 966 (Publicity for in- that it has ad proceds The recom- on is: Local	ic Law clusion s been ures set nmended		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa Director,	certify that I Register. Office of A	at this pr	June	included	code 24
Maryla STREET 2525 F CITY OR Annapo 2. STATE As the tional 89-66: in the evaluation of the level N Name Title	AND NUMB RIVA ROS TOWN: Olis E LIAISON Historic I S), I hereb National ated according to the National of signific Iational [Orland State	OFFICE ed State In Preservat y nominat Register ding to the ional Par ance of t S lo Rido Histor	Liais ion A te thi and c e cri k Ser his n ttate	on Office of 19 s proper certify to teria an evice. The communities of 19 services of 19 service	cer for the 966 (Publicity for inchat it has ad procede The recommon is: Local	ic Law clusion s been ures set nmended		Maryl: N I hereby Nationa Director,	certify that I Register. Office of A	of The N	June ER VERIF	included ic Preser	code 24

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

#8 - Significance (Continued)

In 1971, the City of Baltimore acquired this house⁶ as part of the proposed Historical Park surrounding the Shot Tower which stands immediately north of this building. The city has entered into an agreement with the Women's Civic League which allows the League to restore the structure for use as their head-quarters and a visitors' center.

⁶Deed: Liber RHB 2838, Folio 28, Baltimore City Court House.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

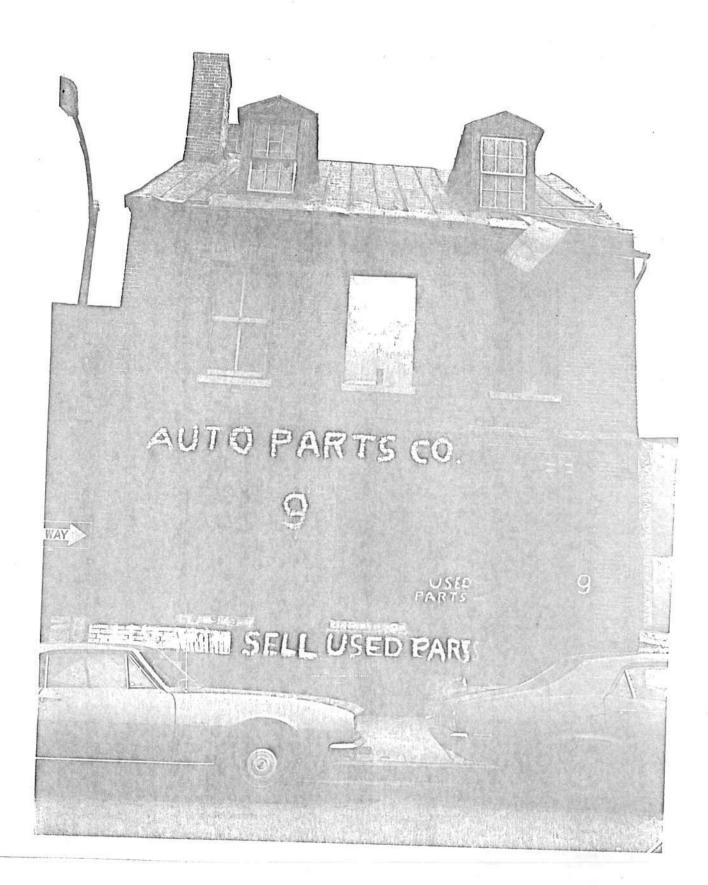
B-3716

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph).

1. NAME		and the second s
Nine North Front Street	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Baltimore City	Baltimore
Nine North Front, Street		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Constitution of the second		Commission for Historical
Deborah Ann Claiborne	April 1973	and Architectural Preserva
4. IDENTIFICATION		402 City Hall
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.	in a	Baltimore, Maryland

Nine Front Street from the west.



Form 10-301 (July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

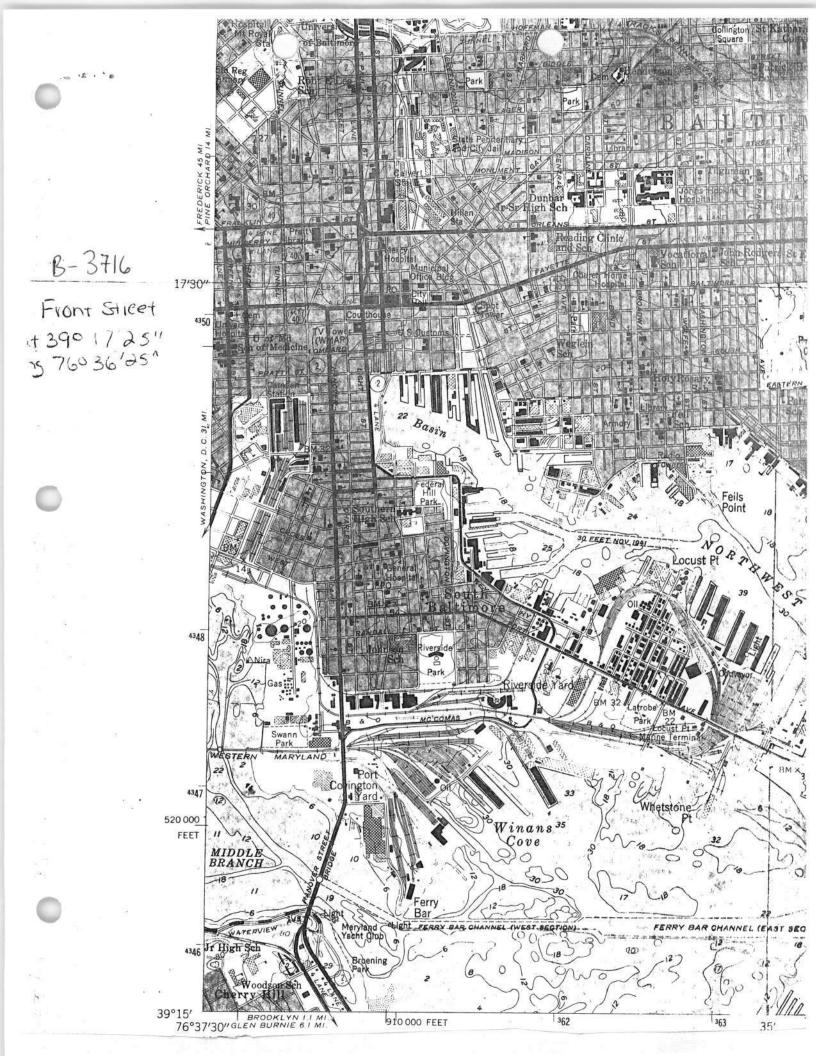
B-3716

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
СОММОН	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Nine North Front Street		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Maryland	Baltimore City	Baltimore
STREET AND NUMBER		*
Nine North Front Street 3. MAP REFERENCE		0
Nine North Front Street	DATE	SCALE

GPO 932-010



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PASERVICE EASE METOR ISE ONLY

B-3716

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

RECEIVED

SEE	INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T	O COMPLETE NATION	AL REGISTER FORMS	S
	TYPE ALL ENTRIES (-
NAME				
The state of the s	North Front Street			
-AND/OR COMMON	North			
	Front Street			
LOCATION	N			
STREET & NUMBER				
9	Front Street		_NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	RICT
	altimore	VICINITY OF	Third	
STATE M:	arvland	CODE	COUNTY Baltimore C	CODE 'i tv
CLASSIFIC				
MCLASSIFIC	BATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
_DISTRICT	X_PUBLIC	_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	_MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	X_WORK IN PROGRESS	X EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	X ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X YES RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	_BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
	. * ·	_no	_MILITARY	XOTHER Offic
OWNER O	FPROPERTY			visitors'
30WHER O	TŅOLEKTI			center
NAME				
STREET & NUMBER	yor and City Counci	1 of Baltimore		
	ty Hall, 100 N. Hol	iday Street		
CITY, TOWN			STATE	PATRICE CONTROL OF THE PATRICE OF TH
Ba	ltimore —	VICINITY OF	Maryland	21202
LOCATION	N OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		
COURTHOUSE.				2.5
REGISTRY OF DEEDS	Land Record Of	fice		
STREET & NUMBER				
	Room 610, Balt	imore City Cour		
CITY, TOWN	Baltimore		STATE	21202
S Dinna a care			Maryland	21202
REPRESEN	NTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
THLE				
			*	
DATE		FEDERAL 4	STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR			LUCAL	
SURVEY RECORDS				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

_GOOD

_FAIR

CONDITION XEXCELLENT (exterior)DETERIORATED

CHECK ONE

_UNALTERED XALTERED

CHECK ONE

R-3716

X_ORIGINAL SITE __MOVED

DATE___

_UNEXPOSED

_RUINS

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 2 1/2-story brick townhouse with 2 story rear wing is located on the east side of Front Street between Fayette Street and Baltimore Street, within the recently constructed Shot Tower Park in Baltimore City. bays wide and two rooms deep, the main house has a gable roof with two dormers on each side and two interior chimneys connected by a parapet at the north end. The front facade is laid in flemish bond while the gable ends (and rear wing) are laid in common bond with 5 rows of stretchers with occasional glazed bricks. On the front facade, the foundation is faced with stone, and there is a raised water table and a three-brick stringcourse. Except for the masonry, all elements have been replaced to make the building look as close to its original late 18th century appearance as possible. All doors and windows have flat arches. windows on the front facade have 6/6 sash and fluted stone sills. (The original shutters will be replaced.) The cornice is boxed, and the dormers have gable returns. The roof is covered with wood shingles.

The front or west side has three windows in the second story, and, in the first story, two windows and a door in the south bay. The (six-panel) door with a four-light transom is reached by a flight of marble steps, several of which are original.

There is an entrance to the basement through a rectangular opening in the basement north bay and double iron doors flush with the sidewalk. In the basement center bay is a window with horizontal, diamond-shaped iron bars.

Because this house was originally flanked by other townhouses, both gable ends are blank.

On the east side, the back wing covers the north bay. There is a six-panel door in the first story south bay and, above that, a window at the stair landing level. In the first and second story center bays are 12/8 sash windows.

The first floor interior plan is composed of two rooms with the staircase at the back against the south wall. Originally the rooms were closed off from the entrance and stairs by a hall that ran the length of the house. Virtually none of the original trim is left on the first floor.

In the first floor west room, there is a large opening to the east room in the center of the east wall, flanked on the north by a small square opening at chairrail height. In the north wall is a brick fireplace opening.

The east room has a door to the wing in the east wall, and a fireplace in the center of the north wall.

EE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

OR NPS UNE ONLY	
14 200	
RE CENTED	X
DATE ENTERED	

9 Front Street
Baltimore City

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

. ITEM NUMBER

7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION cotninued)

The stairs consist of two flights and a landing, which is lighted by a window. The original railing with square balusters, a rounded rail, and round newels on square bases is still in place. Most of the original chairrail along the stairs and around the second floor hall is intact.

On the second floor, the front room stretches across the full width of the house; the back room is narrower because of the stairhall. The stairs to the third floor are against the south wall, in the same position as the first floor staircase.

In the west room, there is a fireplace off-center in a projecting chimney breast in the north wall. The original mantel has half-columns on square bases flanking the opening, a frieze with v-shaped horizontal grooves, and blocks with depressed circles, and a molded shelf. In the east wall, there is a six-panel door to the stairhall and a four-panel door to the east room. Both have molded trim and two-light transoms. There is a baseboard and a chairrail with a cyma reversa under the plain shelf and in the base.

In the east room, the fireplace in the north wall is flanked by closets on both sides. The fireplace in a projecting chimney breast has a simple surround with architrave trim, and the east closet has shelves. In the south wall, west of center, is a six-panel door with architrave trim to the hall. In the center of the east wall is a door to the wing. There is a beaded baseboard and a chairrail like the one in the west room, but with a beaded base.

The third floor staircase originally had the same arrangement as the main staircase, but now the second flight turns north-south. (It will be returned to the original plan.) On the third floor, there is one room and the chimney stacks join in the north wall.

The shed-roofed, ell-shaped wing consists of two sections: the original two-story kitchen and a two-story hyphen that joins it to the house. The brick is laid in the same bond as the ends of the house with occasional glazed bricks. All windows have 6/6 sash and there is a standing seam metal roof.

The north sides of both sections are flush with the north end of the house and are blank. The south side of the hyphen has one window in each story. Inside there is one room on each floor and, at one time, there was a staircase against the north wall.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

OR NPS USE ONLY
E CEIVED
ATE ENTERED

9 Front Street Baltimore City

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

PAGE

(DESCRIPTION continued)

The south side of the kitchen has two windows in the second story, and, in the first story, a door in the west bay and a window in the east bay. In the east end is a small interior chimney, and there is a wood fascia board. (The corners of the second story are almost completely glazed.) The east end of the kitchen is blank; the brickwork is slightly irregular with occasional closers.

The interior has one room per floor.

In both rooms of the kitchen wing, there are fireplaces in projecting chimney breasts in the east wall.

According to Orin Bullock's studies.

100d other nominations. 18-3716 from

Statement of Significance: 9 Front St.

As the sole surviving townhouse in the Shot Tower area, 9 Front St.

merits attention. Extensive research has been conducted on the site to

make this house an accurate representation of what was once there. Bal
timore has few houses from the Federal period, although it was the city's

first major provided of milding. Because it typifies what was once common,

9 Front Street is a valuable and irreplaceable artifact. It is further

distinguished by being the home of Thurowgood Smith, the second Mayor of

Baltimore.

•	Ų	,	1
•)
•			•
)
1	C	١	
1			
	ä	2	
3			•
1			
ı	U	L	ı
•		,	1

PERIOD	(Check One or M	lore as A	ppropriate)				
	Pre-Columbian		16th Centur	ry 🗆	18th Centur	y X	20th Century
	15th Century		17th Centu	ry 🗆	19th Centur	у 📮	
SPECIFI	C DATE(S) (If A	pplicable	and Known)		*		
REASO	F SIGNIFICANC	E (Chec	k One or More as	Appropriate)		
	Abor iginal		Education ·	~ _	Political :	2	Urban Planning
	Prehistoric		Engineering		Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)
	Historia .		*Industry .	· 🗆 - 1 -	; losophy :	· 🗆 :	7'5 <u>7 1</u>
(1-1-1)	Agriculture	d.	Invention . "	□.··/.:	Science	□ j:	9.1
P	Thenisesime		Landscape		Sculpture		
	Commerce 1 01		Architecture		Social/Human-		
Co	Communications	兄'~	Literature		itarian		
	Conservation		Military		Theater		
			Music		Transportation		0

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The house at 9 North Front Street is one of the few remaining 18th century townhouses in Baltimore. It stands in a portion of the city known as "Old Town" or, formerly, "Jones Town" which was annexed to Baltimore in 1745 and whose settlement actually predates that of Baltimore Town.

This house was built by either John Beale Bordley (1) or Charles Torrence to whom he sold the property in 1794. (2). Since Baltimore Street was extended through the property in 1788, it would appear logical that this structure, which is located in the center of the lot, was constructed thereafter.

In 1802 and 1804, the Baltimore City Directory listed "Thorowgood Smith, merchant" as the occupant. Smith was the second mayor of Baltimore (1804-1808). He was a successful merchant and the owner of the "Willowbrook" estate whose oval room is now in the Baltimore Museum of Art. Smith suffered financial losses and sold "Willowbrook" just prior to the period when he occupied 9 N. Front Street. (3)

In the years following Smith's occupancy, the building was owned and occupied by the heirs of Charles Torrence. In 1875, it was sold to William Suess (4) who turned it into a hotel and restaurant. Fragments of Suess' painted advertisement are still visible on the south wall. Samuel Nechamkin purchased the building from the Suess estate in 1940 (5) and thereafter the structure was used as an automobile parts shop.

In 1971, the City of Baltimore acquired this house (6) as part of the proposed Historical Park surrounding the Shot Tower which stands immediately north of this building. The city has entered into an agreement with the Women's Civic League which allows the League to restore the structure for use as their headquarters and a visitors' center.

- (1) John Beale Bordley, prominent member of the judiciary of Maryland, judge of the Provincial Court (1766) and Judge of Admiralty Court (1767), purchased this property from Brian Philpot (Deed: Liber DD#2 Folio 298, (1764), Hall of Redords, Annapolis).
- (2) Deed: Liber WG#PP, Folio 138-140, Hall of Records, Annapolis.
- (3) Although the City Directory lists Smith at 8 N. Front Street, the

Continuation Sheet

Question 8, Significance:

Baltimore City street numbering system was changed in 1887 and #8 became #9. See page 79, Polk's City Directory (1887).

- (4) Deed: Liber GR 698 Folio 436, Baltimore City Court House.
- (5) Deed: Liber MLP 6058, Folio 185, Baltimore City Court House.
- (6) Deed: Liber RHB 2838, Folio 28, Baltimore City Court House.

AMAJOR BIBLIOGRAJ ICAL RIBALTIMORE City Directories.	EFERENCES	*	B-3716
Baltimore Tax Records. Baltimore City Land Records. Ba	ltimore City	Courthouse,	Baltimore.
Biographical Cyclopedia of Representative Men of Baltimore and D.C. National Biographical Co. (Baltimore, 1879). SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4.			
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA			
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Lot size 29' x 124'			
QUADRANGLE NAME		QUADRANGLE S	SCALE
ZONE EASTING NORTHING	B ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
ELJ LLLLJ LLLLL	Ll FLL	البيليا	لتبليلنا
G . I L L I I I L L L L L L L L L L L L L	LI HLLI	Hilid	Lililia
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION			
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES			
STATE CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE . CODE	COUNTY		CODE
FORM PREPARED BY			
Name/Title Natalie Shivers, Sum Catharine F. Black	mer Intern		
ORGANIZATION		DATE	. 1000/- 1000
Maryland Historical	Trust	Augus	t 1978/June 1973
21 State Circle			200 207
CITY OR TOWN		STATE	or = auto societa, assumante
Annapolis Maryland 21401			
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION			
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:			
NATIONAL	STATE	LOCAL _	-
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I			
hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.			
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE			
TITLE		DATE	

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FOR NPS USE ONLY

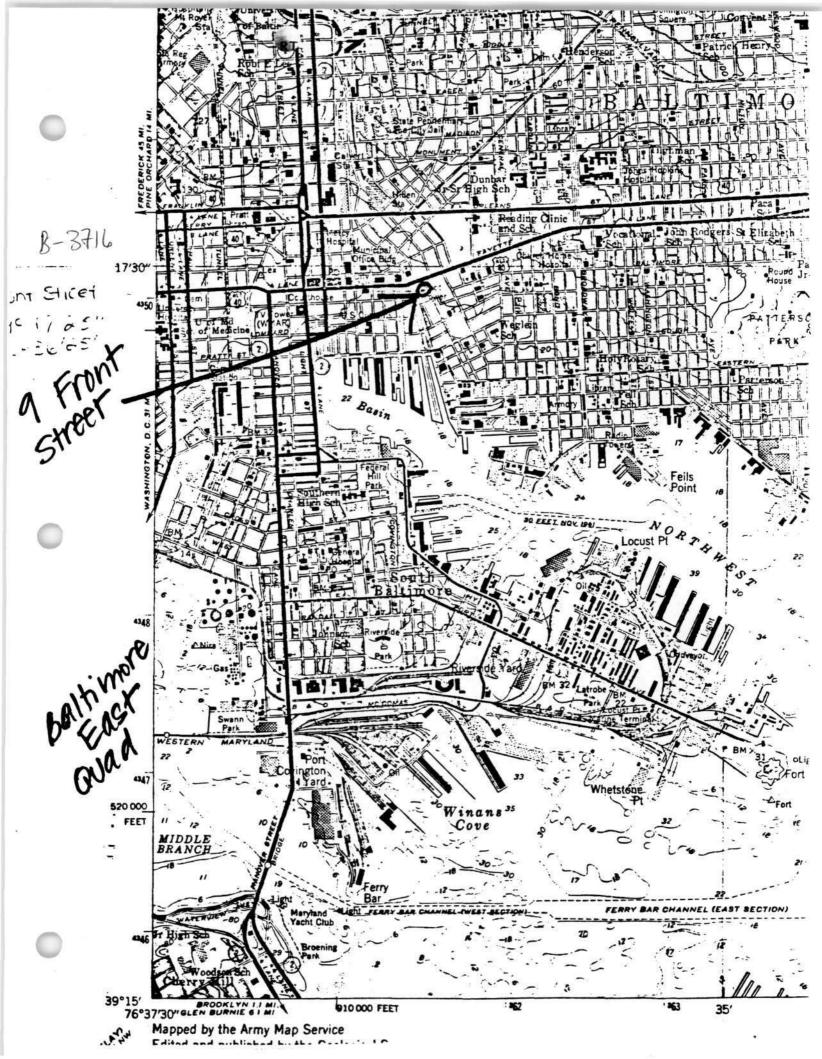
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

ATTEST:

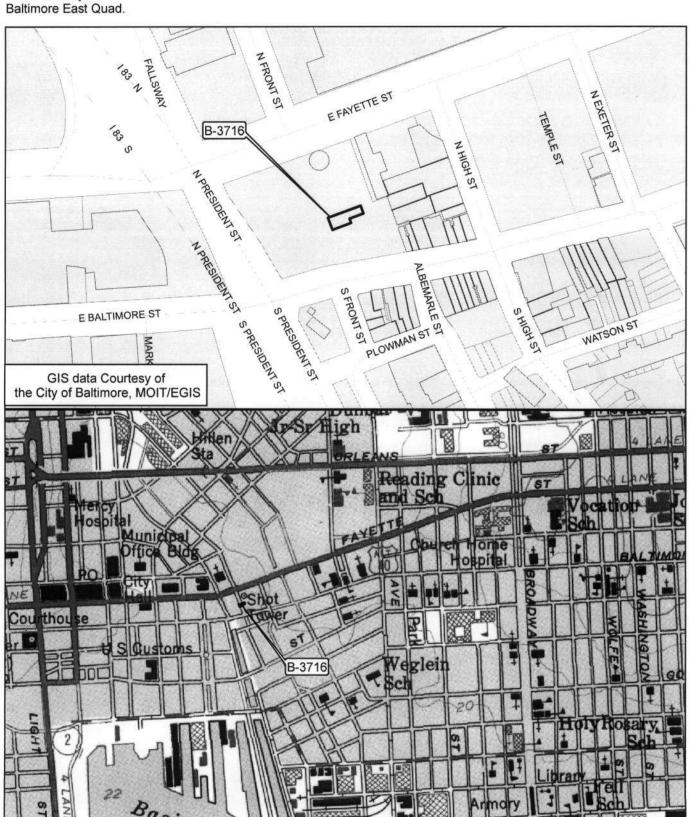
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DATE



B-3716 9 N. Front Street Block 1335, Lot 001 Baltimore City



B-3716 9 FRONT STREET Baltimore City





B-3716 C. 1970 5 % h

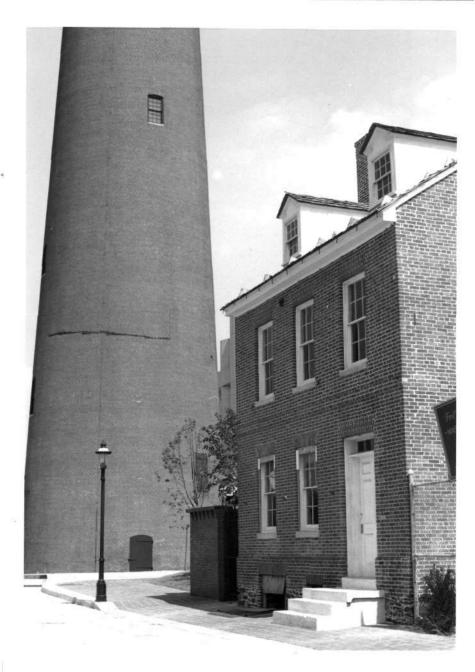


B-3716 C. 1970



B-371's 9 North Front Str. +





B-3716

